

Message Text

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ACTION AF-02

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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

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AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

UNCLAS PRETORIA 0842

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

FOR AF/S

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: JOHANNESBURG PRESS ON USA AFRICA POLICY

USIA FOR IOP/M, IAA

RSA'S TWO BIGGEST DAILY NEWSPAPERS, WHITE ORIENTED " THE STAR" AND BLACK ORIENTED " THE WORLD", BOTH OF JOHANNESBURG, CARRIED REPORT FROM HUGH ROBERTON OF THEIR WASHINGTON BUREAU SAYING CARTER ADMIN." IS FACING A DILEMMA AT THE U.N. AS AFRICAN COUNTRIES PRESS ON WITH PLANS TO TEST THE NEW ADMIN.'S POLICY ON SOUTHERN AFRICA. CENTRAL TO THE DILEMMA IS MR. ANDREW YOUNG WHOSE EARLY IDOLISED IMAGE IS NOW BEING RAVAGED BY SOME OF THE MOST WIDELY READ COMMENTATORS IN AMERICA. MR. YOUNG HAS ANTAGONISED MANY-- NOT SO MUCH BY HIS VIEWS AS BY THE WAY HE EXPRESSES HIS VIEWS. HE SEEMS QUITE UNAWARE OF THE SAG'S HIGHLY DEVELOPED SENSIVITY TO ABUSE. TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE, MR. YOUNG HAS RAISED THE HOPES OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES PROCLAIMING THAT A BINDING ARMS EMBARGO IS AN IRREVER-

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SIBLE POLICY OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION. NOW THAT HE IS ABOUT TO BE CALLED ON TO FULFILL THE EXPECTATIONS HE HAS GIVEN RISE TO-- IRONICALLY AT A TIME WHEN HE HIMSELF WILL BE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL-- CAUTIONARY VOICES ARE BEING HEARD. IS IT WISE, AT THIS JUNCTURE TO SUPPORT A MANDATORY ARMS EMBARGO? IS IT THE SORT OF PRELUDE TO THE NEW ADMINISTRATION'S RELATIONSHIP WITH

RSA THAT WOULD ENCOURAGE AN ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION IN SWA, FOR INSTANCE? MR. YOUNG WAS TOLD BY AN AMERICAN JOURNALIST AT HIS SECOND PRESS CONFERENCE LAST WEEK THAT THE PREVAILING VIEW AT THE U.N. WAS THAT A MANDATORY ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST RSA MIGHT BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE AT THIS STAGE AND HE WAS ASKED WHAT HIS REACTION TO THIS WAS. HE POINTEDLY DID NOT ANSWER THE QUESTION AND INSTEAD GAVE A RAMBLING EXPOSITION OF HIS VIEW THAT BLACKS WOULD BE ADMINISTERING RSA WITHIN FIVE YEARS. WHAT CONCERNS THE RSA DELEGATION TO THE U.N. IS NOT THE PRACTICAL OR MILITARY EFFECTS OF A MANDATORY ARMS EMBARGO SINCE A VOLUNTARY ONE HAS BEEN ENFORCED BY THE USA FOR SEVERAL YEARS. IT IS THE VERY CONSIDERABLE POLITACAL AND LEGAL CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH A STEP-- CONSEQUENCES WHICH, IT SEEMS, MR. YOUND IS STILL UNAWARE OF, BEING AS YET UNFAMILIAR WITH THE U.N. AND DIPLOMACY. ONE EFFECT IS THAT AN EMBARGO WOULD HAVE TO BE ENFORCED UNDER CHAPTER SEVEN OF THE U.N. CHARTER WHICH WOULD GIVE SUBSTANCE TO THE CLAIM THAT RSA IS A THREAT TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY. THAT, IN TURN, WOULD WUPPORT THE FREQUENTLY DECLARED THIRD WORLD DEMAND FOR INTERNATIONAL ACTION AGAINST RSA BY WAY OF "UNITE FOR PEACE" RESOLUTION IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, WHERE THE USA HAS NO POWER OF VETO AND THE THIRD WORLD HAS A HUGE MAJORITY." HUGHES

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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